# LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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# FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

**LS 7424 NOTE PREPARED:** Mar 19, 2007 **BILL NUMBER:** SB 347 **BILL AMENDED:** Mar 15, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Marion County Juvenile Detention Centers.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Bray

BILL STATUS: 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - 2<sup>nd</sup> House

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Porter

FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL IMPACT: Local

DEDICATED FEDERAL

#### **Summary of Legislation:** This bill has the following provisions:

- A. It moves control of the Marion County juvenile detention centers from the Marion County juvenile judge to the executive committee of the Marion County judges.
- B. It makes conforming amendments.
- C. It provides that a probation officer may be present at a juvenile delinquency dispositional hearing under certain circumstances.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

#### **Explanation of State Expenditures:**

# **Explanation of State Revenues:**

<u>Explanation of Local Expenditures:</u> Control of Marion County Juvenile Detention Centers — Changing the management of the court may require some one-time costs of reorganization and reassigning staff. The executive committee consists of 4 judges who are elected by all 32 judges of the superior court. The executive committee is responsible for the operation and conduct of the court operations.

(Revised) Juvenile Delinquency Dispositional Hearings — This provision gives a juvenile court more flexibility in dispositional hearings. Under current law, either a caseworker employed by the Department of Child Services or a probation officer prepares a predispositional report to be presented to the court when a judge determines the best course of action for a juvenile. Assuming that a caseworker prepared the predispositional report, a probation officer who has knowledge of the juvenile, any conferences that were

SB 347+ 1

held, and the recommendations in the report may be present in the dispositional hearing and present testimony concerning the recommendations.

Background – IC 31-37-17-1 specifies that upon finding that a child is a delinquent child, the juvenile court shall order a probation officer or a caseworker to prepare a predispositional report that contains a: (1) statement of the needs of the child for care, treatment, rehabilitation, or placement; and (2) recommendation for the care, treatment, rehabilitation, or placement of the child. When making recommendations, the caseworker or probation officer can confer with professionals and representatives from the juvenile's school. Caseworkers are employed by the Department of Child Services, while probation officers are employed by the juvenile courts.

### **Explanation of Local Revenues:**

# **State Agencies Affected:**

Local Agencies Affected: Marion County Superior Court; Juvenile courts.

**Information Sources:** Indiana Code.

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SB 347+ 2